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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09 829,631	04 10 2001	David R. Sibley	NIH047.1CPIC1	7640

20995 7590 07/10/2002

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EXAMINER

ALLEN, MARIANNE P

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1631

DATE MAILED: 07/10/2002

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

DETAILED ACTION

This application is stated to be a continuation of 08/428,242. This is incorrect. The claims filed in the instant application are not the same as those originally filed in parent application 08/428,242. These new claims do not have apparent support in the original claims or originally filed specification. The originally filed parent specification does not disclose or claim the human and rat nucleotide or protein sequences in terms of the third or sixth transmembrane domains. There is no generic disclosure of serotonin receptors possessing these subsequences. As such, this application is properly considered a continuation-in-part of application 08/428,242. Note that if these claims had been introduced into the parent application they would have been considered to constitute new matter. As such, the claims are given benefit to only the instant filing date, namely 4/10/01.

In addition, the continuing information added by the amendment filed 4/10/01 fails to indicate that PCT/US93/10296 is a continuation-in-part of 07/970,338.

It is noted that while the preliminary amendment filed 4/10/01 states that the sequence listing submitted in the instant application is the same as that filed in parent application 08/428,242 on 2/10/97 this is not completely accurate. Note that the feature fields are not the same and for example, SEQ ID NO: 12 at the nucleotides encoding amino acid 21 lists "Arg" in the present listing and "Xaa" in the parent listing. This is not considered to be new matter as the nucleotides "CGN" would encode Arg for each of CGU, CGC, CGA, and CGG.

In the amendment filed 4/10/01, applicant refers to an interview held on 1/22/01 in parent application 08/428,242 and states that the interview summary is attached. This attachment was not found. The issues in the parent application that led to that interview are summarized below.

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Applicant had submitted a new sequence listing, a new CRF, and the Hamblin declaration to correct the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 12 and thus the corresponding protein it encodes, SEQ ID NO: 13. These changes as well as the deposit information inserted into the specification were deemed to be new matter. None of the information provided demonstrated that a material in hand and specifically identified in the specification at the time of filing was resequenced to demonstrate a sequencing error. Page 23, lines 1-5, of both the parent and instant specification makes clear that multiple materials were identified and none were specifically identified as required by MPEP 2406.01. The experimental details concerning the second round of hybridization are not provided. Neither a lambda phage MT1A1 nor ATCC Accession No. PTA-1538 were disclosed in the parent specification as filed. Thus, the requirement for the statement set forth in MPEP 2406.02 when a deposit is made after the filing date has not been met. It is noted that the Hamblin Declaration discussed sequencing errors and corrections thereof generally and did not point out the particular changes in the sequence. It is acknowledged that applicant has provided Exhibits 1 and 2 as well as the Kohen et al. reference in the instant application to make the corrections to the human and rat sequences clearer. The examiner attaches an alignment of the instant SEQ ID NO: 7 with Genbank Accession No. L41147 and an alignment of the instant SEQ ID NO: 12 with Genbank Accession No. L41146 to show the differences (gaps and mismatches) directly. These Genbank Accession Nos. are provided by Kohen et al. (see legend of Figure 1).

Oath/Declaration

This application presents claims for subject matter not originally claimed or embraced in the statement of the invention. A supplemental oath or declaration is required under 37

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CFR 1.67. The new oath or declaration must properly identify the application of which it is to form a part, preferably by application number and filing date in the body of the oath or declaration. See MPEP §§ 602.01 and 602.02. Note that this should be a continuation-in-part oath for the reasons set forth above.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Sibley et al. (WO 94/10310).

As set forth above, applicant is entitled to benefit of the instant filing date of 4/10/01. As such, Sibley et al. (WO 94/10310) is valid prior art under 35 U.S.C. 102(b).

Sibley et al. discloses cloning and expression of the rat and human St-B17 serotonin receptor. Vectors and host cells are disclosed. The sequences disclosed comprise the third and sixth transmembrane domains as recited in the instant claims. See abstract, claims, and figures.

Conclusion

No claim is allowed.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Marianne P. Allen whose telephone number is 703-308-0666. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 7:00 am - 1:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael Woodward can be reached on 703-308-4028. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-305-3014 for regular communications and 703-305-3014 for After Final communications.

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Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-0196.

Marianne P. Allen

Marianne P. Allen

Primary Examiner

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mpa

July 9, 2002